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13 December 1971

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Director's Conversation with Chairman John Stennis,  
Senate Armed Services Committee

1. Today the Director told me in strict confidence of the conversation he had with Senator Stennis on 11 December. The Senator said he called "checking" on arrangements regarding the Agency budget and the Director said he had been in touch with Chairman Allen Ellender, Senate Appropriations Committee, and the arrangements seemed to be working out satisfactorily to all concerned. Senator Stennis said he had talked to Chairman Hebert, House Armed Services Committee, and Senators Margaret Chase Smith and Milton Young and Ellender, all of whom were in agreement with the proposed arrangements, and he was sure Senator McClellan would go along. It was agreed that the Director and Colonel White would meet with Senator Stennis on Monday, 13 December, to go over final details. Senator Stennis commented that he "hadn't heard anything" from his letter to the President (regarding the appointment of a DDCI), and wasn't sure he would hear anything, but he was "laying groundwork for the future."

2. The Senator asked about rumors that the Director was in line to replace Mr. Hoover at the FBI. The Director said this was "a big joke"--noting that he was not even a lawyer. The Senator said there was "no comparison" between the importance of the Director's job and the directorship of the Bureau.

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JOHN M. MAURY  
Legislative Counsel

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